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Senate

The Senate met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable MARK R. WARNER, a Senator from the Commonwealth of Virginia.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Gracious Lord, whose glory has been revealed through the generations, in this time of change renew within our Senators a true understanding of Your providential purposes. Create in them a fervent desire to do Your will and to trust You to produce the results so desperately needed to heal our Nation and world. Lord, guide them with the light of Your truth so they can see clearer the path You would have them follow. May their priorities reflect Your wisdom so that Your liberating love will be felt in all they say and do. Help them to emulate the depth of Your caring in their relationships and responsibilities. Lord, we ask you to bless our new Senators with Your wisdom and courage.

We pray in Your Holy Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable MARK WARNER led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. INOUE).

The bill clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, November 15, 2010.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby

appoint the Honorable MARK R. WARNER, a Senator from the Commonwealth of Virginia, to perform the duties of the Chair.

DANIEL K. INOUE,
President pro tempore.

Mr. WARNER thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, the Presiding Officer and I have had a number of occasions to speak in the recent weeks. Welcome to you and everyone else, the floor staff, who are so valuable, and our pages. We look forward to a busy next few weeks.

Following leader remarks, the Senate will turn to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each. At 4 o'clock today, Vice President BIDEN will swear in Senators COONS of Delaware and MANCHIN of West Virginia.

There will be no rollcall votes during today's session of the Senate. As a reminder to my colleagues, before the recess I moved to proceed on a few bills. I filed cloture on the motions. As a result, we could have a series of up to three rollcall votes at a time to be determined on Wednesday. Those cloture votes will be on motions to proceed to the following bills: Promoting Natural Gas and Electric Vehicles, Paycheck Fairness Act, and the food safety legislation.

The Senate will not be in session tomorrow in order to allow for caucus meetings and leadership elections.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—H.R. 4168, H.R. 4337, AND H.R. 847

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I am told there are three bills at the desk due for a second reading.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the bills by title en bloc.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4168) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the definition of cellulosic biofuel for purposes of the cellulosic biofuel producer credit and the special allowance for cellulosic biofuel plant property.

A bill (H.R. 4337) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify certain rules applicable to regulated investment companies, and for other purposes.

A bill (H.R. 847) to amend the Public Health Service Act to extend and improve protections and services to individuals directly impacted by the terrorist attack in New York City on September 11, 2001, and for other purposes.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I object to any further proceedings with respect to these proceedings en bloc.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection is heard. The bills will be placed on the calendar under rule XIV.

LAMEDUCK SESSION

Mr. REID. I welcome back, as I have indicated, my friends and welcome our new colleagues who will be sworn in as Senators this afternoon. With Senators MANCHIN and COONS joining our family, the Senate will look a little different starting today. It will soon look much different with 16 new Senators taking office. Some desks will switch aisles but the majority has not changed.

On the other side of this building, the House of Representatives will look even more different with a new majority and new leaders. But before any of that happens, we need to use the next few weeks to finish some business. The 111th Congress is not over yet, and the lameduck session starts today.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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